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ALTHOUGH AT PREWAR FIGURES,
STOCK-RAISING LAGS

STOCK RAISING ON STATE FARMS DISAPPOINTING -- Borba, No 128, 31 May 49

The number of livestock in Yugoslavia has now reached or passed the prewar figure, except in the case of horses. Last year the tentative plan was fulfilled as follows: sheep 104.5 percent, cattle 101.8 percent, horses 100.2 percent, hogs 89 percent, and poultry 86.5 percent. The best results were achieved in Croatia, where the tentative plan was fulfilled 135.9 percent for sheep and 111.2 percent for cattle. The production plan for lard and milk was largely fulfilled, although the plan for meat, eggs, leather, and wool was not. However, the development of stock-raising still lags behind the economy as a whole.

At the end of February 1949 the federal government issued an order requiring farmers to keep as much livestock as the farms can support. The Party organizations, the People's Councils, and the People's Front are responsible for carrying out the order.

Most of the livestock in Yugoslavia is still privately owned. State farms have not yet achieved great success in animal husbandry. In 1948, for example, the state farms in Macedonia lost 12 percent of their lambs because of poor feed and quarters. The percentage of sterility in female animals is high, also because of poor feed and housing. During a single month the agricultural college farm in the Pancevo Rit lost 25 percent of the sheep it had imported from Holland. Over 500 calves were slaughtered on Croatian state farms, supposedly because they were not of good breed, when actually they were excellent calves of the Yugoslav breed. They were then replaced by full-grown animals from abroad, purchased with foreign exchange which could have been spent for machinery.

Imported sheep at the "Belje" state farm soon grow weak and thin because of inadequate care and housing. Sheep on some state farms suffer from mange, although there are ample supplies of medicines to treat the disease.

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Although more than a thousand cooperative breeding stations were formed last year, they received no help from the republic authorities, and they were little used. Last year the plan for breeding with merino and karakul rams was not fulfilled.

This year 17 percent of the arable land in Yugoslavia must be planted in fodder crops to assure sufficient livestock feed.

PURCHASE OF HOGS FOR VACCINE -- Borba, No 128, 31 May 49

The demand for hog cholera vaccine has increased by 150 percent since 1948. To insure sufficient production, the federal government has issued an order calling for the government purchase of thin and unvaccinated hogs in specified sections of Serbia and Croatia, to be used for the production of vaccine.

ARTIFICIAL RAIN FOR VOJVODINA FARMS -- Rad, No 122, 24 May 49

The first modern equipment for making artificial rain has been developed in the central machine shop of the Belje Federal Agro-Industrial Combine at Knezevo. The cultivated fields of Belje and the large gardens in Kozjak will no longer have to depend upon natural rain, and their yields will be higher.

The new equipment showed very good results in tests. A second apparatus, now under construction, will be sent to Montenegro.

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